

INFORMATION REPORT

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Germany (Russian Zone)

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SUBJECT

Kombinat of Soviet AGs Producing Communication and Electronic Equipment

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USE OF TRAINED INTELLIGENCE ANALYSTS

SOURCE

1. a number of Soviet AGs manufacturing communication and similar equipment have recently been incorporated into a new Kombinat. The plants in question are:
 - a. Former Telefunken plant in Thalheim, Saxony, making electro-technical equipment
 - b. Former Siemens plant in Radeberg, Saxony, making parts for radar equipment, such as torque-produced elements, time tracers, etc., based on the results of the development work carried out in the Oberspree-Werk
 - c. Glass factory in Weisswasser, Lower Silesia, formerly an Osram concern, making glass for the manufacture of tubes
 - d. Osram plant, Berlin, manufacturing radio tubes, high-pressure and gas-discharge lamps
 - e. NEF* plant, Berlin-Oberschoeneweide, making apparatus for telephony and telegraph
 - f. NAG plant (Nationale Automobil-Gesellschaft), Berlin-Oberschoeneweide, making apparatus for high frequency
 - g. AEG-Oberspree-Werk, Berlin-Oberschoeneweide, development and manufacture of equipment and accessories for high frequency, radar, and similar plants.
2. The SMA has ruled that the above-mentioned plants must henceforth become financially independent, i.e., self-supporting, and that all SMA contributions will be stopped beginning 1 January 1948. In the future, only the plants working on research and development assignments will be assisted financially by the SMA. Orders placed by Russian agencies must be paid for directly by the purchasers. A special internal accounting and clearing system will be set up to facilitate transactions between the different plants of this Kombinat.

* Nachrichtentechnische Entwicklung und Fabrikation

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3. The Russians plan to build up an export business for the equipment manufactured by this group of factories. A part of the production such as high-pressure and gas-discharge lamps may be sold to the German market; however, the entire production of radio tubes must be sold to Russia.
4. The German managers of the plants involved say that it is imperative that the factories be reorganized according to German principles if they are to become financially independent. They claim that the methods now applied by the Russians, involving continuous checks, investigations and spying as to political views, isolation of departments within one and the same plant, and the curtailed liberty of action imposed upon the German responsible staff members, is retarding the recovery of the plants.
5. The tube department of the Oberspreewerk, which has been operating since October 1947, had contracted a deficit of one million marks by 31 December 1947. The testing of material showed grave defects; the tube sockets of entire series, for instance, had been equipped with the wrong kind of plug studs; another series of tubes had been provided with the wrong grids, and the welding of most of the equipment was discovered to be faulty. The Russians are convinced that acts of sabotage, carried on systematically, are responsible for these defects.

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